

# IMPORTANT FROM THE SOUTH.

## Arrival of the Transport S. R. Spaulding from Hatteras Inlet.

## Seizure of Senator Simmons' Schooner Charity.

## The Captain and Crew Sent Back to Fortress Monroe.

## Reported Attack on Matamoros by Gen. Carvajal, &c., &c., &c.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 18. The steamer Georgia, brought down from Baltimore this morning Hon. Charles J. Faulkner, released on parole from Fort Warren, Boston, en route for Richmond, where he is confident of being able to exchange himself for Hon. Mr. Ely, representative from New York, taken prisoner at the battle of Ball Run.

Mr. Faulkner spent the forenoon at General Wool's headquarters, and was sent by a flag of truce to Craney Island at noon.

Captain Millard, on his return, brought down Captain J. B. Ricketts, of the First Artillery, who was wounded and taken prisoner at Ball Run. He is released on parole, and will be exchanged, if possible, for Captain J. A. De Lagos.

The steamship S. R. Spaulding, Captain S. Howe, which left Fort Royal last Sunday, arrived here at an early hour this morning.

The Spaulding stopped at Hatteras, leaving that place yesterday, and bringing a mail and passengers. Every thing is quiet at Hatteras. Nothing happens to disturb the usual monotony there except the coming and going of the schooner Charity, Captain White, said to be owned by Senator Simmons, of Rhode Island, arrived at Hatteras on the 15th inst., with an assorted cargo, including a large proportion of whiskey. She also took a collector to Hatteras, and on arriving he procured a building from the Commissary, which he proposed using as a custom house. Captain White's papers, however, were very irregular, and on the 17th inst. Captain Wool, of the Star of Stripes, seized the Charity as a prize, and sent her to New York.

The collector, captain and crew of the Charity arrived here in the Spaulding to-day. They are very indignant at their treatment.

Among other passengers from Hatteras was Commissioner John Clark.

The S. R. Spaulding will return to Hatteras on Friday.

The steamer Illinois is reported to be leaking badly, and is expected to sail for New York this afternoon.

The Georgia, brought down from Baltimore this morning Hon. D. W. Voorhees, member of Congress from Indiana, and Judge Huntington, of the same State.

Captain Ricketts was surrounded by the band of the Second Artillery on the wharf, before the boat started, and numbers availed themselves of the opportunity to get a look at the Captain. He is still very weak, and suffering from the effects of his wound.

By a flag of truce to-day we have a Richmond paper of this morning. We extract from it the following news:—

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 16. The Bowling Green correspondent of the Union and American says that the Yankee advance from five to six thousand are in Green river, with some artillery, but have shown no disposition to cross the river. They are reported to be in the hands of the Union.

Padsch (Ky.) expresses regret that Humphrey Marshall is steadily advancing toward Lexington, and meeting with little or no opposition.

Gentlemen who left Paduch on the 11th inst. state that the Unionists had only six thousand men there, ten thousand at Cairo and New Point, and seven hundred at Smithland.

A despatch from Frankfort, dated the 9th inst., says that General Crittenden was at Cumberland Gap on Saturday with a large force, and that five thousand men were at Morristown and would join him. It is feared that General Crittenden will invade Kentucky from that point.

The Brownsville Flag of the 21st ultimo, two weeks later, gives an account of an attack on the city of Matamoros by General Carvajal. The General appeared before the city on the 15th ultimo, and commenced the attack on the 20th. Great carnage took place, and at the hour that the Flag went to press both parties claimed victory.

General Floyd's army has been ordered to Bowling Green, Kentucky. The removal of this army to the far West, says the Richmond Dispatch, leaves a very large portion of Virginia exposed to the enemy. The effect upon the temper of the people in the exposed counties will be extremely untoward.

The Richmond Examiner of the 16th inst. says:—We are assured that resolutions have been introduced into Congress offering sympathy to the people of Maryland and urging such a policy in the conduct of the war as to open the way to her admission into the southern confederacy.

On Saturday last the Hastings Court entered an order directing that all free negroes be sold who do not pay their taxes by the January term of the court.

Confederate States bonds of the \$15,000,000 issue are quoted at 98 1/2.

## NEWS FROM THE REBEL STATES.

The Rebels Distressed for Iron and Coal. The Richmond Dispatch of the 15th inst. has a significant editorial article upon the subject of iron and coal. It attributes national power, prosperity and independence chiefly to an abundant supply of iron and coal, and concludes that the Southern States are in more danger from the want of these commodities than from the want of almost any other article. It laments the abandonment of the iron furnaces in Virginia and Tennessee on account of the non-continuity of coal, and insists that the safety of the South requires early steps to be taken by the Confederate government to bring into requisition two regions of country in the Southern States in which abundant supplies of the species of coal suitable for the manufacture of iron exist in positions accessible to beds of iron ore. It adds, "Until the resources of the South in iron and coal are developed, we cannot pretend to be classed among the great Powers of the earth."

It says, "the Confederate government should look after these interests, for the question of independence may become no other than the question of an abundant supply of iron and coal."

## CRITIQUE OF SALT BY THE REBELS.

The rebel House of Delegates at Richmond have passed an act authorizing the Governor to sell all salt held at exorbitant rates, and place it in the hands of an agent, who shall sell it to the people at reasonable rates. The act is one of evidently great importance.

## THE PRISONERS AT RICHMOND.

In its latest issue the Richmond Dispatch says, "The sixteen prisoners mentioned yesterday as having taken oath of allegiance are released prisoners who were brought to Richmond on the charge of delay."

We understand that two little chaps, named Charles Smith and Thomas Livingston, who were captured with others in a boat on the Potomac a few days ago, have been released, and will be sent back to their friends without delay. We also hear that Captain J. B. Ricketts, of the federal army, who was wounded and captured in the battle of Manassas, will leave to-day for the north, having been exchanged for Captain De Lagos. Mr. Ricketts, who has shared his captivity from his own choice, accompanies him. William H. Tynd, who has for some time past been caged in a county jail, will probably be released in a short time. Sydney S. Baxter has been appointed commissioner to examine prisoners in the place of Col. Coys, resigned.

## GENERAL FLOYD'S REBEL ARMY.

The Dispatch says, "The army of General Floyd, recently ordered to Newbern, Delaware county, has now been ordered to Bowling Green, Ky. These movements of his army were lately ordered to Charleston, and are now en route thither. The Western Virginia regiments, which constitute the command of General Floyd, proper, are ordered to follow him, except one, which is to be left at Newbern."

Among the extracts from Southern papers, the Virginia Argus has an account of a fight in the executive office at Jackson, Miss., between Governor Pettus and Mayor (ex-Congressman) Barksdale.

The Montgomery Advertiser says, "There appears to be a diabolical intent, on the part of some persons now in this city, to consign at least a portion of Montgomery to the flames. Within the past two days there have been several attempts to fire buildings in the city or vicinity, two of which have been successful."

The Lynchburg Republican says, "The rebel loss at the battle of Alleghany Mountain was two captains, three lieutenants and fifteen privates killed, and ninety-seven wounded. The federal loss is set down at five hundred, and that the federal General Milroy was among the killed."

A telegraphic despatch was received by Jeff. Davis on Tuesday morning announcing the English news brought by the Europa.

## IMPORTANT STATEMENT OF A REFUGEE FROM RICHMOND.

The Bulletin, of this city, has a statement given by a Union refugee from Richmond, who escaped on the claim of being a British subject. There was considerable Union feeling prevalent there. The fugitive belonged to a Union club, but their rendezvous being discovered the members were forced to scatter.

Twenty-two hundred rebel soldiers were sick at Richmond. The rebels have sunk links near Norfolk, rendering all approach by water to it impossible.

An attempt was made on Monday last to launch the Merrimack, but she stuck on the ways, and could not be moved up or down.

## NEWS FROM ARKANSAS.

A Union refugee from Arkansas says Governor Reitor has issued a proclamation requiring all persons to come to the aid of sixteen and fifty five to join the army. The persons charged with the execution of the order were relentless, and the recalcitrant citizens were arrested and imprisoned.

Ben. McCulloch had been summoned to Richmond, to answer charges preferred against him for needlessly burning property of Southern men, and for refusing to reinforce Price when the latter was pursued by the Union troops. McCulloch's forces were in winter quarters in Benton county, Arkansas. Six regiments of Indians were in his command.

# THE AMERICA OFF CAPE RACE.

## Two Days Later News from Europe Due Here on Sunday.

## GENERAL MANSFIELD'S DIVISION.

## OUR NEWPORT NEWS CORRESPONDENCE.

## Arrival of the Steamer America from Europe Due Here on Sunday.

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